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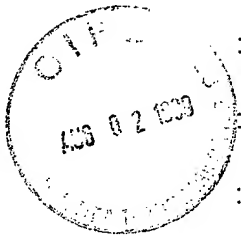
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tatsuhiko SHIBUYA et al.

Serial No. 09/302,471

Filed April 30, 1999



Docket No. 774/98-129 TOK/US

Group Art Unit 1751

#3
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SILICA-BASED COATING FILM ON
SUBSTRATE AND COATING SOLUTION
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of (X) the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or () the additional information identified below in paragraph 4. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. _____.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- a. () within 3 months of the filing date of the above-identified application, or
() within 3 months of entry into National stage prosecution of an International application, or (X) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and thus:
- (X) no certification and/or fee is required.
- b. () after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus:
- () the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided,
or
() a fee of \$240.00 is enclosed.

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- (X) reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 3, and/or
- () reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:

6. (X) Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:

The following references are cited on the attached Form PTO-1449:


1. Japanese Patent Kokai No. 54-72300, cited at page 3, line 4 of the specification.
2. Japanese Patent Kokai No. 2-209927, cited at page 3, line 5 of the specification.
3. Japanese Patent Kokai No. 2-672, cited at page 3, line 5 of the specification (cited erroneously as No. 2-627).
4. Japanese Patent Kokai No. 3-54279.
5. Japanese Patent Kokai No. 5-125287, cited at page 3, line 13 of the specification.
6. Japanese Patent Kokai No. 9-249673.

Abstracts in English for the above are also enclosed.

7. () Also enclosed is a copy of the European Search Report citing these references.

Respectfully submitted,

Tatsuhiko SHIBUYA et al.

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August 2, 1999